



Representative
Hans Dunshee

44th Legislative District



Building a better Washington



Dear neighbors,

How can we make this a better place to live, work and raise a family? How can we build a better Washington?

Today, our state stands at a crossroads. There are politicians who say the only way to create jobs is to borrow and spend, as Congress is doing now with record deficits.

Other politicians claim the answer to every problem is to wield the axe: cut the minimum wage, cut taxes, cut services, don't build so many schools and bridges.

I believe it's impossible to win a race to the bottom. China and Brazil will always have lower wages, lower taxes and fewer protections against pollution and toxic waste.

History shows families in Washington state prosper when we win the race to the top, when we have the best products in the world. Boeing, Microsoft, Costco, Starbucks, Amazon.com – those companies fought their way to the top by being the best.

Bringing prosperity back to every corner of Washington, from Aberdeen to Zillah, will take something more important than money. It will take teamwork and the willpower to push hard so we have the best:

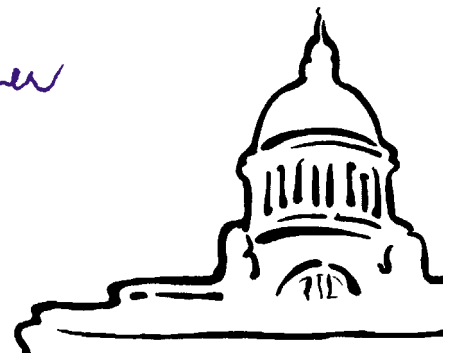
- the best schools and universities
- the best jobs
- the best health care, and
- the best water, air and forests

This newsletter is my chance to tell you about issues important to our neighborhoods. It's also an opportunity for me to hear from you.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your representative to the Legislature.

Sincerely,

Rep. Hans Dunshee
44th Legislative District



Keeping in Touch

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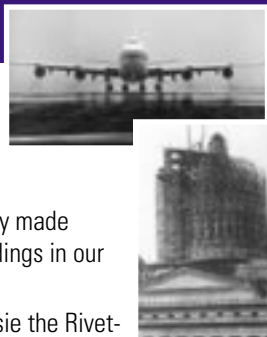
Building a better Washington

Our choice

Our parents and grandparents made their choice: they sacrificed and worked hard to build a better future for us. And we mean build:

- During the Great Depression, they made the great dams, bridges and buildings in our state;
- During World War II, real-life Rosie the Riveters built the bombers that won the war; and
- During the Cold War, we built great local companies like Boeing and Microsoft.

I believe it's our duty to make this a better place for our children and grandchildren by building things that last.



Building smart

The state spends billions to build schools, universities, prisons and office buildings.

I introduced a strong reform that says we're going to be smart and use high-performance construction to save money, boost productivity, create local jobs and protect the environment.

The governor has now signed this law, making Washington the first state in the nation to have a green building law.

This high standard is a proven winner.

High-performance buildings include features like natural sunlight instead of artificial light. And research proves they:

- increase student test scores by 20 percent
- reduce worker absenteeism by 15 percent, and
- cut energy and utility costs by 30 percent.

It's common sense. People perform better — and don't get sick as often — when they have natural sunlight and fresh air coming through windows instead of the blue fluorescent glow of a windowless cubicle farm.

Visit betterbricks.com for more information and research on high-performance green buildings.



Better schools

Real classrooms — No child should try to learn in a converted broom closet or rickety trailer.

I wrote a construction budget for our state that shattered the record for building schools with more than \$600 million for schools. That helps our kids get out of trailers and overcrowded broomclosets. And we did it by keeping a lid on pork barrel spending and instead using that money for our kids.



Simple majority — I also voted for the simple majority bill for school levies. It's wrong to say 59 percent is a landslide for a politician, but a failure for our local schools.

Better pay for teachers — I voted for teacher cost of living adjustment so they don't lose money to teach our children.

Smaller classes — I also voted for class size reduction.

Ballfields for our kids — There's a huge shortage of baseball and soccer fields for our kids, especially here in Snohomish County.

I wrote a reform to fix this problem so our kids can play ball and I'm happy to say this reform passed. I also secured money to convert unused state land in Snohomish County into ballfields for our kids.

Better colleges and universities

It's wrong to do nothing and tell 35,000 high school students, "Sorry, there's no room at our state colleges and universities." Not one student should be denied the chance to earn a college degree, the surest ticket to the American Dream.

As chair of Capital Budget, I fought for more money to boost our state's brainpower. We're spending nearly \$1 billion to build new lecture halls and labs to make room for our high school graduates and create jobs.

I voted for a budget that added space for 8,000 new college students.

I also voted for a reform that will turn three branch campuses (UW-Bothell, WSU-Vancouver and UW-Tacoma) into four-year universities. And I put money in the budget to study how we can get a four-year university in Snohomish County, where our state has the greatest need for a university.



Local schools, lower taxes

More money from the state to build schools means lower costs for local taxpayers.

Taxpayers in the 44th District will save more than \$45.8 million because of the new construction budget. Here's how much you'll save local projects scheduled for construction:

Lake Stevens School District

New mid-high school — \$9.6 million

Addition to high school — \$900,000

Modernize three elementary schools — \$5.4 million

Total: \$14.9 million

Snohomish School District

New high school — \$4.3 million

Modernize old high school — \$5.2 million

Total: \$9.5 million

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Everett School District

Eisenhower Middle School modernization – \$3 million

Emerson Elementary School – \$1.1 million

Total: \$4.1 million

Smart reforms

I voted to cut more than 1,000 middle-management positions, saving millions of dollars for taxpayers. I believe we should cut desk jockeys and instead focus more on front-line workers who do the job in state government.

I also voted for strong reforms to do things better, faster and cheaper:

Performance Audits: Requires performance audits of state agencies. Old audits check whether laws are being followed; performance audits are a report card for citizens and businesses. What's working? What needs to be fixed?

Instant accountability: Police cut crime in New York City by relentlessly tracking crime numbers and holding people accountable for constant improvements, week after week. The State Patrol here in Washington used the same methods to cut drunk driving. This new law makes all state agencies adopt these proven methods.

Health care

Cheaper prescription drugs – To get the most for your tax dollars, the state uses its giant purchasing power – just like Costco does – to get us the best price.

We do it for copying paper, staples, everything. But not prescription drugs, even though taxpayers buy \$1 billion in prescription medicine a year.

I voted for a reform to save your money by shopping smart and negotiating better prices.

Medicine from Canada – Why is it that the same blood pressure medicine made here in America sells for \$300 a bottle in Everett, but \$100 just across the border in Canada? Telling us we can't buy those drugs runs 100 percent counter to the whole idea of a free market.

Americans pay the highest prices in the world for medicines, and it's not just a job-killer, but a real killer. Seniors and working people are cutting their pills in half or going without the medicines their doctor says they need to stay healthy and alive.

I voted for a number of reforms to safely buy medicines from Canada.



Elections

I voted for a package of election reform bills. Some of those reforms include:

Vote-by-mail: This new law helps counties convert to vote-by-mail, which increases voter turnout and reduces errors. Seven out of ten voters already vote by mail and more counties are using this system.

Provisional ballots: Regulates the handling and security of provisional ballots and requires auditors to notify a voter within three days if the signature does not match.

Verifying signatures: Creates a new set of guidelines on how to verify a voter's signature.

Statewide voter database: Requires the Secretary of State to quarterly review, update and correct the voter registration list.

Military voters: Return envelopes for mail ballots must have a box the voter can check to indicate a member of the armed forces or an overseas voter.

44th District Questionnaire

What is your top priority? (pick one)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Education | <input type="radio"/> Taxes |
| <input type="radio"/> Jobs | <input type="radio"/> Crime |
| <input type="radio"/> Health care | <input type="radio"/> Abortion |
| <input type="radio"/> Environment | |

What do you think?

I voted against the gas tax as the way to fund transportation. What do you think?

- ☐ Don't fix transportation
☐ Raise the gas tax
☐ Find other funding

Instead of raising the sales tax, property taxes or the Business and Occupation tax, the Legislature increased funding for schools and universities with sin taxes on cigarettes and liquor and by restoring the inheritance tax on estates worth more than \$2 million. What would you have done?

- ☐ Let revenue fall and cut services
☐ Tax cigarettes, liquor and inheritances
☐ Increase sales, property and B & O taxes

Where is the nation headed?

- ☐ Right direction ☐ Wrong direction

Where is Washington state headed?

- ☐ Right direction ☐ Wrong direction

What should Washington look to as role models – to emulate or avoid?

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| British Columbia | <input type="radio"/> More like | <input type="radio"/> Do the opposite |
| California | <input type="radio"/> More like | <input type="radio"/> Do the opposite |
| Idaho | <input type="radio"/> More like | <input type="radio"/> Do the opposite |
| Texas | <input type="radio"/> More like | <input type="radio"/> Do the opposite |

Comments: _____



Please
place
stamp
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Representative

Hans Dunshee

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Courtney's Law

You see kids everywhere with giant speakers in the back of their cars. A lot of these speakers are just sitting there, unsecured. And a local Snohomish girl, Courtney Amisson, died when a 57-pound speaker crushed her during a car accident.



There's no good reason another kid should get maimed or killed by these things. Not when a five-cent bolt from Ace Hardware would have saved Courtney's life.

Courtney's mom and her classmates from Snohomish High School have traveled to Olympia for three years to ask lawmakers for a reform.

I'm proud of how her mom and the high school kids worked hard and never gave up. This year, I introduced the reform again and we got it passed.

I have never been more proud than when I stood next to Courtney's classmates and family as the governor picked up her pen and signed Courtney's Law.



I'm proud to tell you that the governor came to Snohomish to sign my bill to save our ballfields from getting closed down. Let the kids play ball.

Toll-free Legislative Hotline: 1-800-562-6000
TTY (Hearing-impaired Hotline): 1-800-635-9993

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